

New Mexico Racing Pigeon Club

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I. - NAME AND PURPOSE

The name of this organization shall be the New Mexico Racing Pigeon Club, located in the State of New Mexico

Members cannot be excluded because they have been successful in competition. Members cannot be excluded for flying or belonging to another pigeon racing club.

Section 2. Affiliation. The Organization shall be chartered with the American Racing Pigeon Union (AU). It will compete and conduct its activities in compliance with the AU rules and Competition Standards. Members may affiliate with any other club or national organization as an individual as desired.

Section 3. Purpose. The Purpose of this Organization is to engage in the friendly competition of racing Homing Pigeons and to foster a positive social environment for members and their families while promoting the Sport of Racing Pigeons. Any member who fails to act in a manner that supports this purpose may be subject to disciplinary actions up to and including being banned from the club.

Section 4. Motto. Our Motto shall be: Respect, Friendship, Common sense, and Fair Competition for All.

Section 5. Sportsmanship. Members of the New Mexico RPC agree to conduct themselves in the spirit of friendly sportsmanship, fairness and in accordance with the AU Code of Ethics.

ARTICLE II. - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Active Members: Any Homing Pigeon fancier who has participated in at least one race during the previous year, and is current in all dues and fees of the New Mexico RPC and national organizations is considered an Active Flying Member. All other members who are current of all dues and fees and did not fly are considered by the New Mexico RPC as Active members. Members must be of good character and have never been expelled by a recognized national racing pigeon organization.

Section 2. New Members: Recommendations of individuals as new members in the New Mexico RPC may be made by any active member of the club. A prospective member who has never been a member shall be eligible for membership if he is eligible to be an AU member. Membership shall not be denied based on anyone's sex, race, creed, religion, or other AU club affiliation. Acceptance of the applicant as a member **is constituted by a majority 2/3 vote in favor by those current members present and voting.** **New members may be**

Voted on at any regular meeting or special meeting called by pres.

Section 3. Invitational Membership: NA

Section 4. Probationary Membership: NA

Section 5. Junior Membership in the New Mexico RPC is defined as any person less than sixteen 16 years of age and accepted by the majority vote of the active members present. Junior members are not allowed voting privileges.

Section 6. Associate Membership: is defined as any former flying member of the New Mexico RPC who is not presently engaged in racing pigeons. Associates and Junior members are not eligible to vote in any New Mexico RPC elections

Section 7. Partnership lofts: shall be limited to one **2 members and one vote each.** Only **two** teams of birds may be entered from a partnership loft or single loft location unless a junior is flying with a parent or club approved guardian, **the junior member is limited to ½ team. Club approval by a majority vote will be required to fly two teams from a single loft**

Section 8. Family Lofts: Shall be considered a partnership except that special consideration might be given to junior members and the loft may be limited to number of votes at the discretion of the club.

ARTICLE III- GOVERNMENT

Proxy voting shall not be allowed by any Organization affiliated with the AU.

Section 1. Voting: A $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the active members present is required to amend or delete any provisions of articles I, II, III. A majority vote of the members present is required on any other issue such as race schedules, race rules, shipping and the election of officers of the New Mexico RPC except

where otherwise noted. All Active members shall have the right to make and second motions from the floor, as long as it is not done just to be disruptive at the meetings.

Section 2. Election of officers: Officers of the New Mexico RPC shall include a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Race Secretary and Web Master. Election of officers shall take place at the annual New Mexico RPC meeting during the month of **December**. Nominations will be made from the floor of the meeting and upon being made; the President shall order that they be added to the list of nominees. All nominees shall have the privilege to decline nomination. Newly elected officers will take charge of their office at the January meeting. All terms are for one year and no person shall hold more than one office at a time. Should an office become open during the year due to resignation or any other cause, the President will appoint a replacement.

Also during the annual meeting, awards for the young bird season will be handed out and set up all auction and or any bond races.

The president will set a date for the next meeting (either December or February) to finalize the old bird season.

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Section 3. Duty of Officers.

a. President: The President shall preside over all regular or special meetings and in such a manner as to transact all business. The President shall only vote to break tie votes and shall automatically be on all committees in an advisory capacity. He is the spokesman for the New Mexico RPC and will meet the public and be the spokesman for the organization should the need arise.

b. Vice-President: The Vice-President will preside at all meetings in the absence of the President, and heads up special committees as appointed by the president, (i.e. publicity or Race committee) The Vice President will also serve as the New Mexico RPC Constitution & Bylaws Advisor to make sure the New Mexico RPC operates as intended, and it's constitution and bylaws are kept up to date.

c. Secretary: The Secretary shall issue notices of all New Mexico RPC meetings at least a week in advance, and shall attend and keep the complete minutes of same. It is the Secretary who will order and issue the bands, and

keep the records in accordance with the policies of the AU. The Secretary is responsible for keeping the New Mexico RPC by-laws and Race Rules current and issues all revisions to the members. It is the responsibility of the Secretary to make sure the AU secretary kits with band or diploma orders are returned to the national office in a timely manner. The Secretary will keep the webmaster updated at all times.

d. Treasurer. The Treasurer is responsible for the financial assets of the New Mexico RPC. The Treasurer will submit a financial accounting to the membership quarterly, or as directed by the President. The Treasurer shall keep the president informed as to any delinquent member accounts, and shall pay the New Mexico RPC bills with the President's co-signature on all checks exceeding \$500. The Treasurer shall keep in his custody all books and records pertaining to the New Mexico RPC and deposit all monies received for dues, bands, surplus received from shipping or any other sources into the New Mexico RPC official bank account, in a timely manner. The Treasurer will be sure that bank account signature cards are kept current.

At the termination of his office, the Treasurer shall immediately surrender to the President or new Treasurer, all books, records, and related papers together with such funds or monies in his possession. An audit shall always be made by the incoming Treasurer and two (2) members of the New Mexico RPC as appointed by the President.

e. Race Secretary: The Race Secretary is responsible for the conduct of the New Mexico RPC races. He/she shall chair the Race Committee, consisting also of members (at least two), appointed by the President and recorded in the minutes. The Race secretary is responsible for conduction and maintaining a record of all loft surveys and shall coordinate the race liberations and make provisions for notifying New Mexico RPC members of release times. He shall manage all race-figuring activities, and is responsible for publishing race results and distributing diplomas and awards. All race results must be published on the New Mexico RPC web site within 24 hours of clocking out. The race secretary will also chair the Loft Registration committee.

ARTICLE IV- ADMENDMENTS:

Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws can only be acted upon at the annual meeting. A three-quarters (3/4) majority vote of the active members in attendance shall be required for adoption.

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ARTICLE V- DISPUTES:

Disputes (other than race disputes, which are to be handled by the Race Secretary,) are to be settled as follows: They shall first be referred to the New Mexico RPC President for settlement. If his decision is appealed by either party in the dispute, the matter shall be taken up by the Organization's officers for settlement.

If their decision is appealed by either party in the dispute, the entire Organization membership, other than the parties in the dispute, shall decide the issues by majority vote. If the dispute cannot be remedied through the local organization or its affiliates,(i.e., Club to Combine/Concourse, Center, State Organization), and an AU rule is involved, then a complaint may be filed with the AU national office.

A. Member leaving club. When a member leaves a functioning AU club, for any reason, all physical or financial assets shall remain with the club, unless specified in a written agreement made, dated and signed, between the member(s) leaving and remaining club membership. (Added 11-06)

ARTICLE VI- EXPULSION/ SUSPENSION: A member accused of dishonorable conduct as outlined by the AU Rules of Conduct (see AU Bylaw14.), shall be notified to appear before the officers of the New Mexico RPC who will investigate the charges. Such notification to appear shall be in writing at least seven (7) days before the date of the hearing and shall specify the charges. As a result of the investigation, the officers shall present their findings to the membership of the New Mexico RPC at the next regular meeting or at a special meeting. A secret written ballot will be taken, and a three-quarters (3/4) majority vote of all active members would be required to expel or suspend a member. The hearing must follow procedures outlined in the AU's Constitution and Bylaws (see Sec. 15 Disciplinary Rules), and must assure the charged individual is afforded "due process." An expelled or suspended member shall forfeit all privileges and claims against the organization.

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ARTICLE VII- DISSOLUTION OF ASSOCIATION: The New Mexico RPC shall not be dissolved without the consent, in writing, of two-thirds (2/3) of its active members, obtained in one and confirmed in another special meeting convened for consideration of such dissolution. Upon dissolution, the property of the New Mexico RPC shall be disposed of, to the best advantage, and the

proceeds, after all bills and obligations have been paid, shall be equally divided among the whole of the membership in good standing as of the date of the initial dissolution meeting (or as provided in that organization's specific Constitution & Bylaws).

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1.00 MEETINGS: The order for all meetings should be by Agenda, which should be distributed to all attending the meeting at the beginning (or prior to the meeting). Items may be added to the agenda from the floor, prior to the meeting being called to order (or as time permits at the conclusion). Meetings should start and end promptly on time.

1.01 QUORUM: One Third (1/3) of the active members shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.

1.02 Annual meeting: The annual meeting shall be held in **December** The business of that meeting shall include, consideration of any changes to the Constitution and Bylaws; and payment of dues. All members shall be provided written notice of the annual meeting at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

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1.03 Regular Meetings: Regularly scheduled meetings shall be held not less than quarterly, or as voted by the membership.

1.04 Special meetings may be called by the President or in his absence the Vice-President, if deemed necessary.

Notice of such meeting shall be given each member at least one week in advance of the date of the meeting either in writing, personal contact or by a direct phone call to the member.

The President shall call a special meeting within 10 days of receipt of a signed request from 25% or more of the active members of the club.

1.05 Order of Business: The normal agenda of business at regular New Mexico RPC meetings shall include:

Roll Call; Minutes of Previous Meeting; Proposals for Membership

Financial Report; Committee Reports; Communications

Unfinished Business; New Business; Date of next meeting

Good of the Sport; Adjournment

1.06 MEETING DECORUM Meetings should always be conducted in an orderly manner, without side talking or distractions during the regular course of the meeting. Drinking of alcohol beverages during any meeting, shipping or closing a race is prohibited until the meeting is adjourned or business at hand is complete. Exceptions may be special events (shows, auctions, futurities, etc.) Disorderly/combatative conduct or public intoxication at any club function may be grounds for disciplinary actions up to and including loss of membership.

2.00 MEMBERSHIP DUES: Annual dues for members shall be determined at the annual January meeting by a majority vote of the active members present. New Mexico RPC dues, as well as those associated with other organizations, which the New Mexico RPC is affiliated, are due, and payable at the annual meeting. Members are not allowed to race or purchase bands until dues have been paid.

2.01 Annual Dues shall be used for affiliation dues, and all other necessary operating expenses.

2.02 Partnership lofts shall each pay dues per year in the same manner provided above. Each individual composing the partnership shall each be assessed the annual dues as per AU membership policy. (Sec. 210.23)

2.03 Junior members are those members who have not reached their 16th birthday. He/she shall pay the prescribed AU dues for juniors and five dollars for the New Mexico RPC dues. Junior members must participate at shipping and handle birds whenever possible.

2.04 Pro-rated Dues Members joining after July 1 of the year are required to pay full AU Dues, plus any Late Fees, and full current year dues for the New Mexico RPC. The fiscal year for the New Mexico RPC dues shall begin January 1st and end on December 31st of each year.

3.00 RACE RULES

Race rules, special races, diplomas, trophies and other prizes shall be left to the wishes of the current membership provided they do not conflict with the Official AU Competition Standards.

No changes shall be made during the race season in which the above mentioned items are initiated unless approved by $\frac{3}{4}$ of the actively flying members. Race rules, schedules and release times will be reviewed at the annual meeting. A copy of the rules and race schedule shall be given to each member annually.

4.00 COMMITTEES. Regular and temporary committees shall be appointed by the President who shall designate a chairman of each.

4.01 Race Committee. The Race Secretary will chair the Race Committee, consisting also of at least two (2) members, appointed by the President and recorded in the minutes. This committee shall have charge of all race details and shall conduct every race according to these by-laws, and AU Competition Standards as well as any additional rules the New Mexico RPC has. It will also resolve all questions and disputes regarding racing or competition ensure that racing supplies are adequately maintained, and manage all race-figuring activities.

4.02 Loft Certification Committee. The race secretary will also chair the Loft Certification Committee, with a minimum of one other member, to inspect, photograph, and survey members lofts and file with the national office. Forms may be downloaded from the AU web site.

5.00 RESIGNATION Any member wishing to resign from the organization must tender his or her resignation in writing to the Secretary-Treasurer and must pay all indebtedness which may be due the organization by them, and will forfeit all rights and claims to the New Mexico RPC property.

6.00 SHORTAGE OF OPERATING FUNDS Any shortages of funds shall be assessed equally to all members and restored to the Club treasury. In the event of an assessment of over \$300 each member may be given the opportunity to pay their portion of the assessment in three or more installments. Any agreement to money given, invested, or loaned to the club must be recorded in the minutes and a written agreement or contract provided, as appropriate, signed by the Club's officers.

Conduct. Negative or derogatory comments about other NMRPC members or members of other clubs will not be tolerated at club functions. We recognize that

everyone will not always agree on everything, but at club functions these disagreements must remain orderly and respectful. Club voting is the manner in which these disagreements will be settled. Failure to conduct yourself in this manner may result in disciplinary actions up to and including loss of membership.

It is not the goal of this club to revoke anyone's membership, Therefore it is recommended that the use of verbal and written warnings be used when appropriate and suspensions and loss of membership be implemented only when willful and or repeated violations are at issue.

Club officers will be consistent with any disciplinary actions.